

What is claimed is:

1 1. A clothes dryer system comprising, in combination, a
2 modified clothes dryer and a heating apparatus, said modified
3 clothes dryer being modified for accepting heated fluid from
4 said heating apparatus, and having supporting means for
5 transferring heat from said heated fluid to clothes that are
6 to be dried and deposited therein.

1 2. The clothes dryer system in accordance with claim 1,
2 further comprising air circulating means disposed within said
3 modified clothes dryer, and further comprising means for
4 accepting heated fluid, comprising a radiator that radiates
5 heat from said heated fluid to air that is circulated within
6 said modified dryer by said air circulating means.

1 3. The clothes dryer system in accordance with claim 1,
2 further comprising means for accepting heated fluid,
3 comprising a sensor disposed in said clothes dryer for sensing
4 when clothes deposited into said clothes dryer have reached a
5 dry condition, said sensor sending a signal to said heating
6 apparatus to terminate the flow of heating fluid to said
7 clothes dryer in response to said dry condition.

1 4. The clothes dryer system in accordance with claim 1,
2 further comprising a control panel supported by said clothes
3 dryer, said control panel having means to signal said heating
4 apparatus to supply heated fluid to said clothes dryer.

1 5. The clothes dryer system in accordance with claim 3,
2 further comprising a timer that is settable to deactivate
3 input of heated fluid into said clothes dryer when either
4 condition occurs: said dry condition or said timer expires.

1 6. The clothes dryer system in accordance with claim 1,
2 further comprising means for accepting heated fluid,
3 comprising a timer disposed in said clothes dryer for setting
4 a predetermined time interval, said timer sending a signal to
5 said heating apparatus to terminate the flow of heating fluid
6 to said clothes dryer when said predetermined time interval
7 has expired.

1 7. The clothes dryer system in accordance with claim 2,
2 wherein said air circulating means comprises a fan.

1 8. The clothes dryer system in accordance with claim 7,
2 further comprising a filter operatively connected to said fan
3 for filtering out laundry lint.

1 9. A clothes dryer for heating wet or damp clothes using
2 heat obtained from a home heating apparatus, said clothes
3 dryer having a rotating drum for tumbling clothes, said
4 rotating drum comprising an inner chamber for accepting
5 clothes needing to be dried, drive means disposed in said
6 clothes dryer for rotating said rotating drum, an air
7 circulating means for circulating air through said inner
8 chamber, heat exchanging means for accepting heated fluid from
9 said home heating apparatus and transferring its heat to said
10 air being circulated in said inner chamber of said rotating
11 drum, whereby said clothes are heated, tumbled, and dried.

1 10. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 9,
2 further comprising a sensor disposed within said clothes dryer
3 for sensing when clothes are substantially dry, said sensor
4 providing a signal to terminate said heated fluid being
5 supplied by said home heating apparatus.

1 11. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 9,
2 further comprising a control panel supported by said clothes
3 dryer, said control panel having means to signal said home
4 heating apparatus to supply heated fluid to said clothes
5 dryer.

1 12. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 9,
2 wherein said heat exchanging means comprises a radiator for
3 accepting heated fluid, and whose heat is radiated to
4 surrounding air.

1 13. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 9,
2 further comprising exhaust means for exhausting moisture-laden
3 air, said exhaust means disposed at a rear portion of said
4 clothes dryer, and having communication with said inner
5 chamber.

1 14. The clothes dryer system in accordance with claim 9,
2 wherein said air circulating means comprises a fan.

1 15. A clothes dryer that uses heated fluid from a
2 heating apparatus, comprising a clothes drying drum supported
3 in a housing, said clothes drying drum having an inner chamber
4 for tumbling clothes in need of drying, heat exchanging means
5 supported in said housing for accepting heat from said heating
6 apparatus, and then transferring it to said drying drum and
7 said clothes being tumbled therein.

1 16. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 15,
2 further comprising a sensor disposed within said clothes dryer
3 for sensing when clothes are substantially dry, said sensor
4 providing a signal to terminate said heated fluid being
5 supplied by said heating apparatus.

1 17. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 15,
2 further comprising a timer that is settable to deactivate
3 input of heated fluid into said clothes dryer when dry
4 condition occurs or timer expires, whichever comes first.

1 18. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 15,
2 further comprising a control panel supported by said clothes
3 dryer, said control panel having means to signal said heating
4 apparatus to supply heated fluid to said clothes dryer.

1 19. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 15,
2 wherein said heat exchanging means comprises a radiator for
3 accepting heated fluid, and whose heat is radiated to
4 surrounding air.

1 20. The clothes dryer in accordance with claim 15,
2 further comprising exhaust means for exhausting moisture-laden
3 air, said exhaust means disposed at a rear portion of said
4 clothes dryer, and having communication with said inner
5 chamber.